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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor : Ernst HELD et al.
Serial Number : 09/742,980
Filing Date : December 20, 2000
For : ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR HAVING GUIDE AND CENTERING AID
Examiner : A. GILMAN
Art Group : 8646

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Jong H. Lee

#15
2-14-03
Juni
(N.6)**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

SIR:

This Response addresses the final Office Action mailed December 17, 2002, and it is respectfully submitted that this Response places the above-identified application in condition for allowance.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the present application, and Claims 1-6 stand rejected. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,234,817 to Hwang et al. ("Hwang"). It is respectfully submitted that Hwang fails to anticipate claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites:

An electrical connector, comprising:

a plug connector having a guide element;

a single composite mating connector having a recess, the recess being dimensioned so that during an insertion process of the plug connector into the mating connector, the guide element is guided into the recess, and in an inserted state, the recess is set apart from the guide element.